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DOCTOR WHO CLASSICS
PRESENTS

DOCTOR WHO
AND THE CITY OF THE DAMNED

ORIGINAL CREDITS:

WRITERS:
PAT MILLS &
JOHN WAGNER

ARTIST:
DAVE GIBBONS

EDITOR:
DEZ SKINN

DOCTOR WHO
TIMESLIP

ORIGINAL CREDITS:

PLOT:
DEZ SKINN

SCRIPT & ART:
PAUL NEARY

DOCTOR WHO
AND THE STAR BEAST

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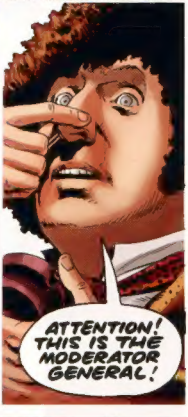
Stan Lee presents

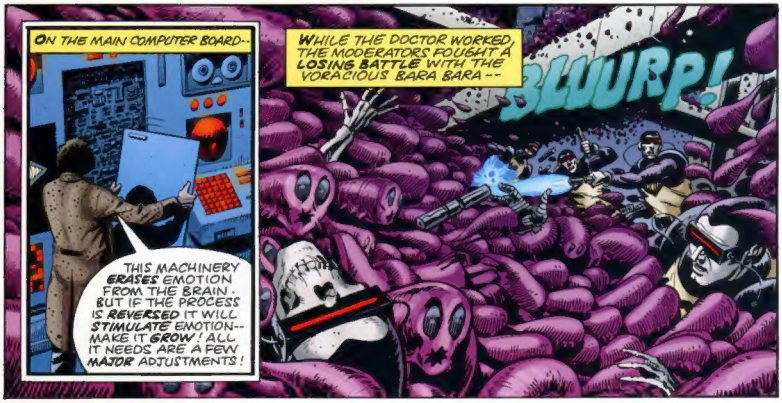
DOCTOR WHO

CITY OF THE DAMNED

DEADLY BARABARA – BLOODBUGS – ARE INVADING THE CITY OF THE DAMNED. THE DOCTOR CONVINCES THE CITY'S RULERS – THE BRAINS TRUST – THAT THE PEOPLE CAN BE SAVED ONLY BY GIVING THEM BACK THEIR EMOTIONS. BUT THE MODERATOR GENERAL INTERVENES –

SCRIPT: WAGNER & MILLS ART: DAVE GIBBONS.



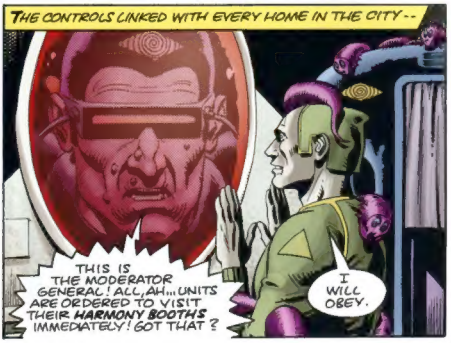

ON THE MAIN COMPUTER BOARD--
THIS MACHINERY ERASES EMOTION FROM THE BRAIN. BUT IF THE PROCESS IS REVERSED IT WILL STIMULATE EMOTION--MAKE IT GROW! ALL IT NEEDS ARE A FEW MAJOR ADJUSTMENTS!
WHILE THE DOCTOR WORKED, THE MODERATORS FOUGHT A LOSING BATTLE WITH THE VORACIOUS BARA BARA--
BLUURP!

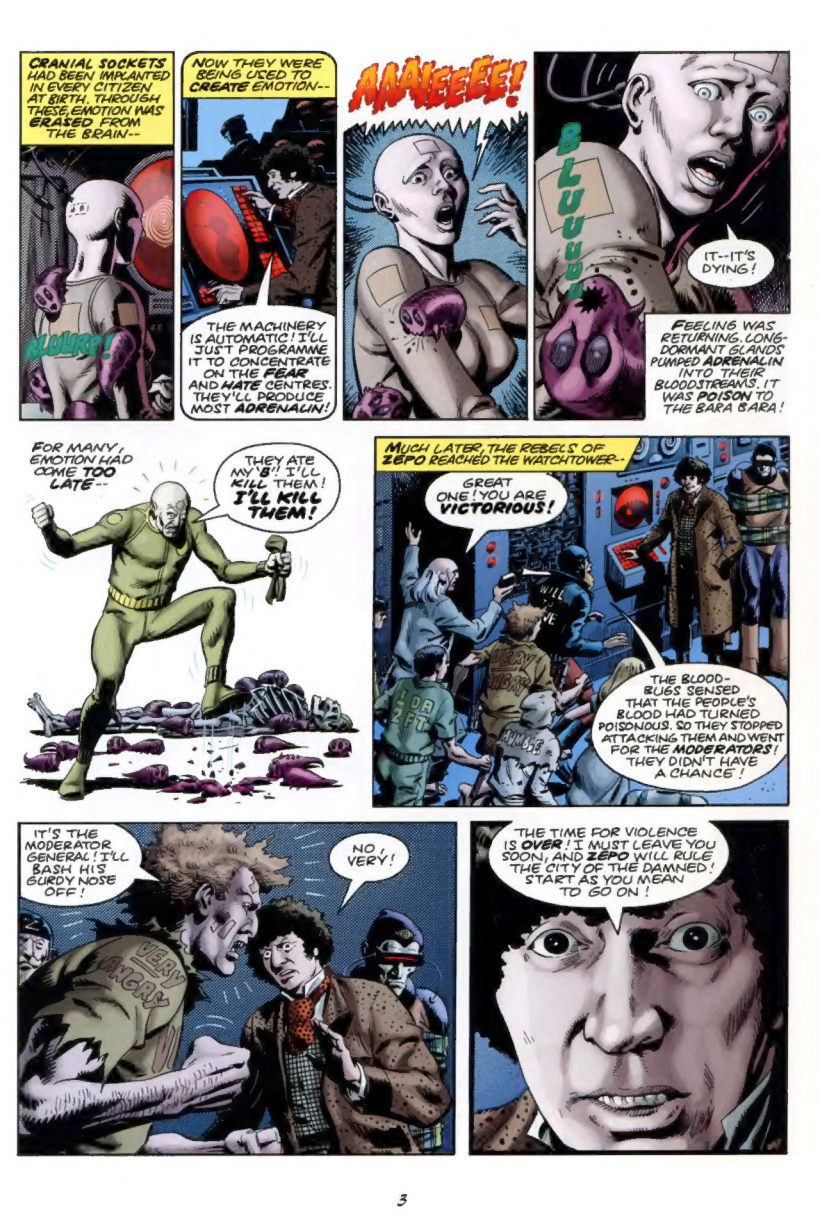
IN THEIR MILLIONS, THEY SWARMED INTO BUILDINGS WHERE THE PEOPLE WAITED, UNABLE TO FEEL FEAR--
BLUURP!
BLUURP!

THIS IS NOT NORMAL. SHOULD WE DO SOMETHING, 'B'?
IT IS DANGEROUS TO THINK FOR OURSELVES, 'A'. THE MODERATORS WILL DEAL WITH THEM.
BLUURP!
BLUURP!

THERE, THAT'S IT!

UUHHH
I'M GOING TO NEED YOU ONE MORE TIME, SLEEPING BEAUTY. DO TRY TO LOOK CONVINCING!


THE CONTROLS LINKED WITH EVERY HOME IN THE CITY--
THIS IS THE MODERATOR GENERAL! ALL, AH... UNITS ARE ORDERED TO VISIT THEIR HARMONY BOOTHS IMMEDIATELY! GOT THAT?
I WILL OBEY.


CRANIAL SOCKETS HAD BEEN IMPLANTED IN EVERY CITIZEN AT BIRTH. THROUGH THESE, EMOTION WAS ERASED FROM THE BRAIN--
BLUURP!
NOW THEY WERE BEING USED TO CREATE EMOTION--
THE MACHINERY IS AUTOMATIC! I'LL JUST PROGRAMME IT TO CONCENTRATE ON THE FEAR AND HATE CENTRES. THEY'LL PRODUCE MOST ADRENALIN!
AAAIEEEE!
BLUUUU
IT--IT'S DYING!
FEELING WAS RETURNING. CONG-DORMANT GLANDS PUMPED ADRENALIN INTO THEIR BLOODSTREAMS. IT WAS POISON TO THE BARA BARA!
FOR MANY, EMOTION HAD COME TOO LATE--
THEY ATE MY 'S'! I'LL KILL THEM! I'LL KILL THEM!
MUCH LATER, THE REBELS OF ZEPO REACHED THE WATCHTOWER--
GREAT ONE! YOU ARE VICTORIOUS!
THE BLOOD-BUGS SENSED THAT THE PEOPLE'S BLOOD HAD TURNED POISONOUS. SO THEY STOPPED ATTACKING THEM AND WENT FOR THE MODERATORS! THEY DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE!
IT'S THE MODERATOR GENERAL! I'LL BASH HIS GURDY NOSE OFF!
NO, VERY!
VERY ANGRY
THE TIME FOR VIOLENCE IS OVER! I MUST LEAVE YOU SOON, AND ZEPO WILL RULE THE CITY OF THE DAMNED! START AS YOU MEAN TO GO ON!

NEXT ISSUE: JOIN THE DOCTOR AND K9 IN ... **TIME TRAP!**

Stan Lee presents

DOCTOR WHO TIMESLIP

PLOT: DEZ SKINN SCRIPT & ART: PAUL NEARY.

... SOMEWHERE IN DEEP SPACE! AND ACCORDING TO OUR INSTRUMENTS WE HAVE JUST UNDERGONE SOME SORT OF SLOWING DOWN OF TIME!
NATURALLY, MASTER... WE ARE MATERIALISING.
NO, OLD CHAP... I SENSE IT TO BE SOMETHING MORE THAN THAT...
TIME IS SLOWING DOWN BY OUTSIDE INFLUENCE!
AFFIRMATIVE, MASTER! IF THIS CONTINUES WE WILL MOVE BACKWARDS IN TIME!
! TIME IN BACKWARDS MOVE WILL WE CONTINUES THIS IF! MASTER , AFFIRMATIVE
IT HAD DRIFTED INWARD FROM THE GALACTIC RIM, WHERE IT AND HORDES LIKE IT FEED MINDLESSLY ON THE GREAT REEFS OF TIME... WHERE DISTANT PAST AND FAR-FLUNG FUTURE BECOME ONE.
BUT IT WAS LOST AND WEAK AND HUNGRY, HUNGRY FOR TIME ENERGY.
AND SUDDENLY, UNEXPECTEDLY, CAREENING THROUGH THE VOID HAS COME... FOOD!

INSIDE THE TARDIS; THE DOCTOR AND K-9 KNOW NOTHING OF THEIR PLIGHT.
WHAT WAS THAT YOU SAID, K-9?
MATERIALISING ARE WE MASTER, NATURALLY
MY GOODNESS, THE POOR LITTLE FELLOW! I THINK WINNING ALL THOSE GAMES HAS GONE TO HIS HEAD!
NO, TIME IS RUNNING BACKWARDS, AND WHILE MY BRAIN IS NOT AFFECTED, K-9'S ELECTRONIC IMPULSES HAVE BEEN REVERSED...
THE REVERSE TIME-FLOW ACCELERATES AS THE CREATURE EATS AT THE TIME ENERGY STORED IN THE TARDIS...
MY WORD... K-9'S... DISMANTLING?!?
... BECOMING COMPONENTS... WE'VE REACHED THE DAY HE WAS MADE!
THE CREATURE FEEDS AND TIME ROLLS BACK...
POOR K-9! JUST A POOL OF MOLTEN METAL!
WAIT! MY FACE! MY MIND MAY NOT BE AFFECTED, BUT MY BODY IS...
I'M GETTING YOUNGER!!
WELL, THIS IS ALL VERY INTRIGUING, BUT ONE DOES FEEL MOVED TO POSE THE QUESTION...
...WHERE WILL IT ALL END?
THE CREATURE FEEDS AND GROWS STRONG...
THE MISTS OF TIME ENGULF THE DOCTOR...
HE REELS... AND FEELS A FAMILIAR CHANGE APPROACHING...

THE TRANSFORMATION OCCURS ... AND A DRUNKEN SPRAWL OF TORMENTED VISIONS SPIRAL PAST THE DOCTOR'S CONSCIOUSNESS ...
... OLD ADVERSARIES LOOM AND TAUNT, ONE TRANSFORMATION IS FOLLOWED BY THE NEXT, AGAINST A BACKDROP OF FEVERISH NIGHTMARE IMAGES!
CHANGING ...
BECOMING THE DOCTOR I WAS ...
... BEFORE ... I'M NOT TRAVELLING IN TIME ...
... I'M TRAVELLING BACK THROUGH MY OWN EXPERIENCES!!
NEXT WEEK
BID TIME RETURN

Stan Lee presents
DOCTOR WHO
TIMESLIP
THE CREATURE GROWS STRONGER AND LARGER, WHILE EVERYTHING INSIDE THE TARDIS GROWS YOUNGER... INCLUDING THE DOCTOR, WHO HAS REGRESSED THROUGH SEVERAL OF HIS FORMER INCARNATIONS!
I MUST FIND OUT WHAT IS CAUSING THIS PHENOMENON OF TIME REVERSAL...
..BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
IF I DON'T ARREST THIS PROCESS, I MIGHT BECOME TOO YOUNG TO HELP MYSELF!
THE INSTRUMENT PANEL IS DEAD... IT SEEMS I'M HELPLESS TO DIVERT DISASTER!
MY TARDIS... IT'S YOUNG AGAIN... AS IT ONCE WAS...
...SHINY...
...NEW...

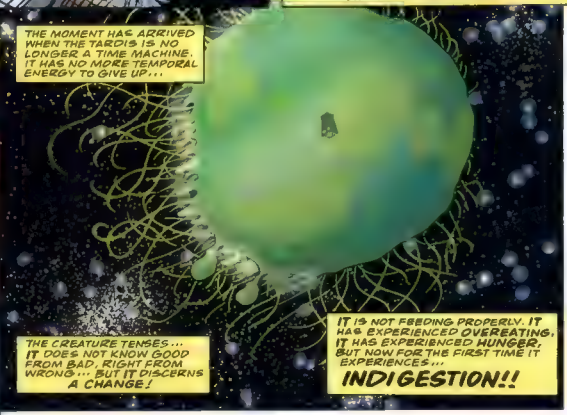
BUT WE'RE IN TROUBLE NOW, OLD GIRL! IF TIME CONTINUES TO ROLL BACKWARDS, WE'LL BOTH CEASE TO EXIST!

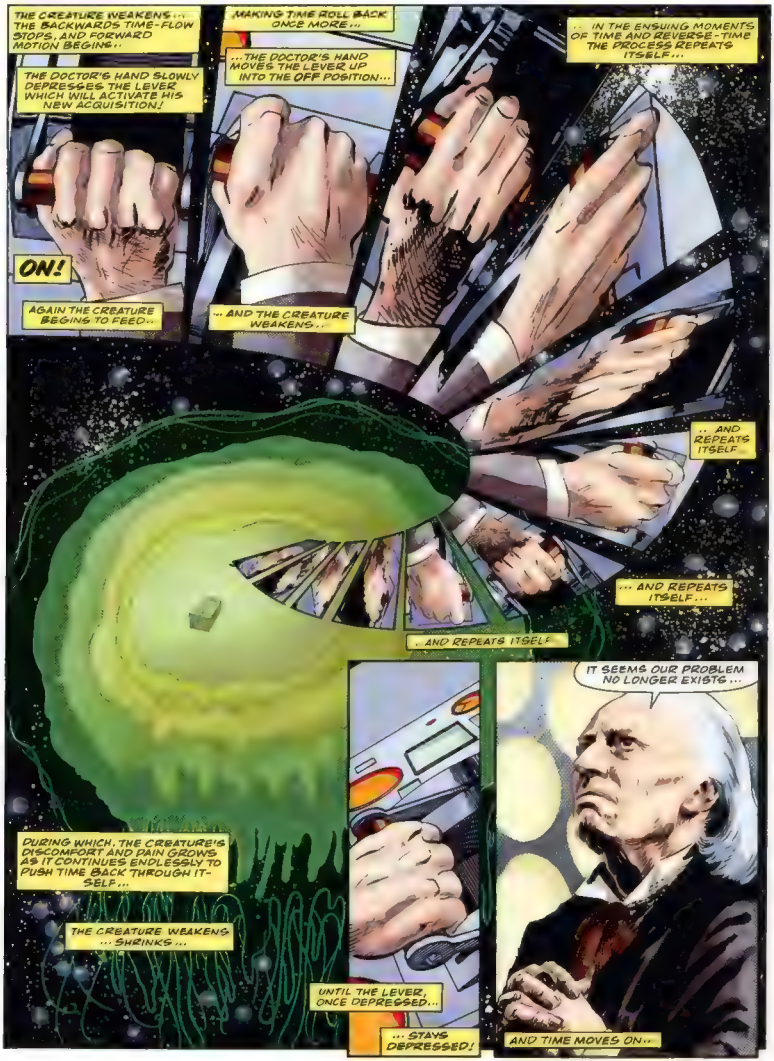
YOUR VIEWSCREEN IS DEAD... I MUST FIND SOME CLUE TO OUR DILEMMA!
TUT TUT... TIME IS SHORTER THAN I IMAGINED, HERE ARE THE TEST INSTRUMENTS I USED TO CALIBRATE THE CONTROLS IN THE EARLY DAYS...

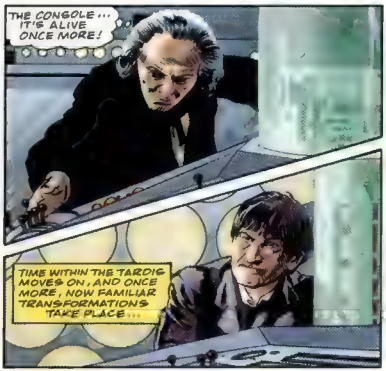
AS EVENTS UNFOLD, THE DOCTOR FEELS IRRESISTABLY DRAWN TO PERFORM THE FIRST TASK IN THE LIFE OF THE TARDIS...

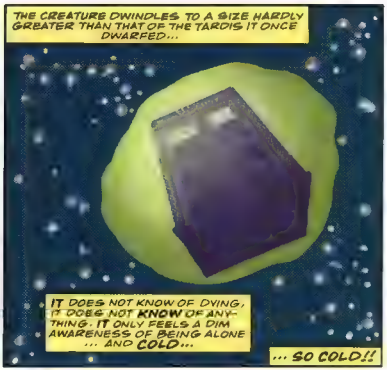
TIME UNFURLS, THE INSTANT APPROACHES WHEN THE DOCTOR THREW THE LEVER WHICH ACTIVATED THE TARDIS...

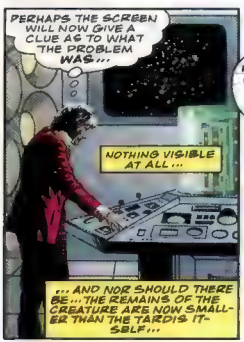
THE DOCTOR'S FINGERS CLOSE ABOUT THE LEVER AND MOVE IT INTO THE OFF POSITION...


THE MOMENT HAS ARRIVED WHEN THE TARDIS IS NO LONGER A TIME MACHINE. IT HAS NO MORE TEMPORAL ENERGY TO GIVE UP...
THE CREATURE TENSES... IT DOES NOT KNOW GOOD FROM BAD, RIGHT FROM WRONG... BUT IT DISCERNS A CHANGE!
IT IS NOT FEEDING PROPERLY. IT HAS EXPERIENCED OVEREATING, IT HAS EXPERIENCED HUNGER, BUT NOW FOR THE FIRST TIME IT EXPERIENCES...
INDIGESTION!!


THE CREATURE WEAKENS... THE BACKWARDS TIME-FLOW STOPS, AND FORWARD MOTION BEGINS..
THE DOCTOR'S HAND SLOWLY DEPRESSES THE LEVER WHICH WILL ACTIVATE HIS NEW ACQUISITION!
ON!
AGAIN THE CREATURE BEGINS TO FEED..
MAKING TIME ROLL BACK ONCE MORE...
...THE DOCTOR'S HAND MOVES THE LEVER UP INTO THE OFF POSITION...
... AND THE CREATURE WEAKENS..
... IN THE ENSUING MOMENTS OF TIME AND REVERSE-TIME THE PROCESS REPEATS ITSELF...
.. AND REPEATS ITSELF...
... AND REPEATS ITSELF...
.. AND REPEATS ITSELF
DURING WHICH, THE CREATURE'S DISCOMFORT AND PAIN GROWS AS IT CONTINUES ENDLESSLY TO PUSH TIME BACK THROUGH ITSELF...
THE CREATURE WEAKENS ... SHRINKS ...
UNTIL THE LEVER, ONCE DEPRESSED...
... STAYS DEPRESSED!
IT SEEMS OUR PROBLEM NO LONGER EXISTS...
AND TIME MOVES ON..


THE CONSOLE... IT'S ALIVE ONCE MORE!
TIME WITHIN THE TARDIS MOVES ON, AND ONCE MORE, NOW FAMILIAR TRANSFORMATIONS TAKE PLACE...

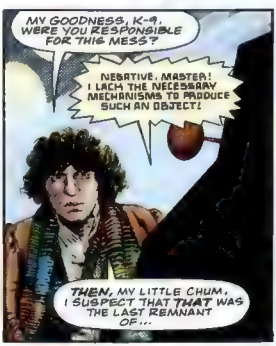

THE CREATURE DWINDLES TO A SIZE HARDLY GREATER THAN THAT OF THE TARDIS IT ONCE DWARFED...
IT DOES NOT KNOW OF DYING, IT DOES NOT KNOW OF ANYTHING. IT ONLY FEELS A DIM AWARENESS OF BEING ALONE ... AND COLD...
... SO COLD!!

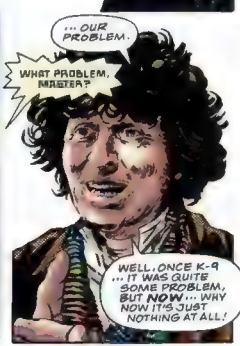

PERHAPS THE SCREEN WILL NOW GIVE A CLUE AS TO WHAT THE PROBLEM WAS...
NOTHING VISIBLE AT ALL...
... AND NOR SHOULD THERE BE... THE REMAINS OF THE CREATURE ARE NOW SMALLER THAN THE TARDIS ITSELF...

AND INSIDE THE TARDIS ITSELF!
AHA! I SEE THE REDOUBTABLE K-9 IS ABOUT TO REJOIN US... I KEEP TELLING HIM HE SHOULD PULL HIMSELF TOGETHER!

NEGATIVE, MASTER... THE USE OF THE WORD 'REJOIN' INFERS MY HAVING LEFT AT SOME TIME...

BUT THAT'S JUST IT, OLD FELLOW... YOU DID LEAVE US AT SOME TIME...
FOR SOME TIME...
AND LATER, AT THE SAME TIME, YOU...
SQUE-E-ELCH!


MY GOODNESS, K-9, WERE YOU RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS MESS?
NEGATIVE, MASTER! I LACK THE NECESSARY MECHANISMS TO PRODUCE SUCH AN OBJECT!
THEN, MY LITTLE CHUM, I SUSPECT THAT THAT WAS THE LAST REMNANT OF...


... OUR PROBLEM.
WHAT PROBLEM, MASTER?
WELL, ONCE K-9 ... IT WAS QUITE SOME PROBLEM, BUT NOW... WHY NOW IT'S JUST NOTHING AT ALL!

Stan Lee presents
DOCTOR WHO
AND THE
STAR BEAST
GOOD EVENING. HERE IS THE NINE O'CLOCK NEWS.
REPORTS BY LOCAL PEOPLE THAT A U.F.O. FLEW LOW OVER BLACKCASTLE LAST NIGHT HAVE BEEN SCORNED BY OFFICIAL SOURCES.
"THEY SHOULD GET THEIR EYES TESTED," A SPOKESMAN SAID. "BLACKCASTLE IS THE LAST PLACE ON EARTH ALIENS WOULD WANT TO VISIT!"
WRITERS: MILLS + WAGNER / ARTIST: DAVE GIBBONS / EDITOR: DEZ SKINN

"THE MYSTERIOUS EXPLOSION AT BLACKCASTLE STEEL-MILLS WAS JUST COINCIDENCE ..."

AND GAS BOARD OFFICIALS ARE INVESTIGATING ..."

"THE U.F.O. WAS PROBABLY A LOW FLYING AIRCRAFT." THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

AND NOW THE REST OF THE NEWS. THE PRIME MINISTER TONIGHT WARNED THE UNIONS ...

NEXT DAY--

JUST IMAGINE, SHARON...! THE 'MONSTER FROM ANOTHER WORLD' COULD BE LURKING SOMEWHERE IN THIS DUMP!

DON'T BE STUPID, FUDGE! YOU'VE BEEN READING TOO MANY SPACE COMICS -- THEY ROT YOUR BRAIN, YOU KNOW!

WHAT'S THIS GREEN SLIME, THEN?

IT'S JUST PAINT, DUMBO.

NO -- IT SMELLS ... DIFFERENT! LET'S FOLLOW IT ...

IF WE'RE CAUGHT, THEY'LL THINK WE'RE NICKING SOME-THING...

SHAR! BLIMEY! LOOK...!

MEEP! MEEP!

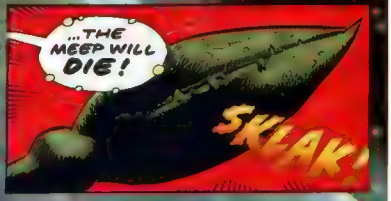
HE LOOKS A BIT WEEDY, DOESN'T HE?

WHAT D'YOU EXPECT AN ALIEN TO LOOK LIKE, BIRD BRAIN? I THINK HE'S SWEET ... PLEASE -- DON'T BE FRIGHTENED!

MEEP!

MEANWHILE, IN SPACE--

NOW HEAR THIS! OUR SEARCH FOR THE MEEP IS ALMOST OVER! IT HAS LANDED ON THE THIRD PLANET OF THIS SYSTEM!

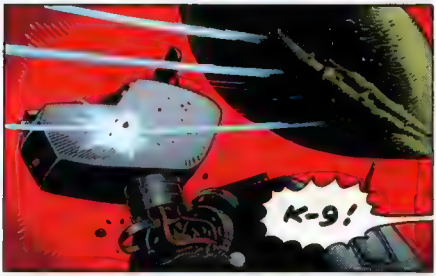


THE TARDIS MATERIALISES ON BOARD..
♫ ...WE'RE OFF TO SUNNY SPAIN! VIVA ESPAÑA! ♪
THIS ISN'T BENI-DORM, K-9!
CORRECT, MASTER!
IT'S PITCH-BLACK..DEFINITELY NOT THE PLACE FOR A SUN-TAN! WELL, LET'S SEE WHERE THE RANDOMISER HAS LANDED US THIS TIME...
A STAR SHIP OF SOME KIND... BUT WHY IS EVERYTHING IN DARK-NESS?
MAYBE THIS IS THE LIGHT-SWITCH...
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY! I DIDN'T REALISE I WAS SQUEEZING YOUR EYE-BALL!
PERHAPS WE SHOULD INTRODUCE OUR-SELVES..OH, WELL --PERHAPS NOT!

MY SOMBRERO! THERE'S NO REASONING WITH THE CREATURE!
K-9! DO YOUR BUSINESS ON HIM!

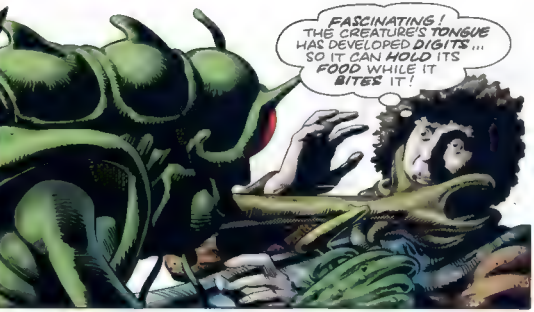
AFFIRMATIVE, MASTER!

EFFECT OF LASER BEAM--ZERO! APOLOGIES, MASTER!
THERE, THERE, K-9 MY WORD! I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A STRANGE AND POWERFUL SPECIES!


K-9!

SUDDENLY
YUUUGGH!
NEXT WEEK: THE HUMAN BOMB!

A MYSTERIOUS ALIEN–KNOWN AS 'THE MEEP' –HAS MADE AN EMERGENCY LANDING IN BLACKCASTLE, WHERE HE IS FOUND BY TWO CHILDREN. MEANWHILE, THE DOCTOR AND K-9 MEET UP WITH THE ALIEN'S PURSUERS– THE WRARTH WARRIORS!



MAKING FIRST INCISION!
AN HOUR LATER--
I'VE PLANTED THE BOMB IN HIS STOMACH. THERE'LL BE NO OPERATION SCAR ...THESE ARE SURGEON'S TENTACLES!
GOOD. HE MUST NOT KNOW HE IS NOW... A LIVING BOMB!
THEN WE WILL USE HIM TO DESTROY THE ACCURSED MEEP!
IN BLACKCASTLE, SHARON AND FUDGE WERE TAKING THE MEEP TO A NEW HIDING PLACE...
WHY HAVE WE GOT TO HIDE THE ALIEN IN MY HOUSE..?
'COS IT'S NEAREST BRAIN OF BRITAIN
MEEP! MEEP!
WE'LL LOOK AFTER YOU AND SEE YOU DON'T COME TO ANY HARM.
MEEP!
WELL, WHAT IF HE DOES A METAMORPHOSIS IN MY BEDROOM? I GOTTA SLEEP THERE, YOU KNOW!
THE MEEP WON'T HURT YOU! NOW MAKE SURE THE COAST IS CLEAR...
COME ON! BUT IF THAT FUR-BAG GIVES ME SOME REVOLTIN' SPACE LURGEY --I'LL MAKE SURE YOU CATCH IT, TOO!
OH, THAT'S NICE! WELL, YOU'RE REVOLTIN', ALREADY!
MEEP! MEEP!

MEEP! MEEP!

YOU'LL BE SAFE HERE. WE'RE GOING TO LOOK FOR YOUR CRASHED SPACE ROCKET NOW...

DON'T SAY 'SPACE ROCKET'... YOU CALL THEM STAR SHIPS! GIRLS ARE SUCH THICKIES!

ON BOARD THE WRARTH WARRIORS' STAR SHIP, THE DOCTOR REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS...

WH-WHAT HAPPENED..? LAST THING I REMEMBER--AN ALIEN WAS TRYING TO SUFFOCATE ME!

IT'S SO BLACK--THE CREW MUST SEE IN THE DARK...THEY PROBABLY EAT A LOT OF CARROTS!

NOW ... FIRE CLOSE TO HIM! MAKE IT LOOK CONVINCING!

OH, NO! HERE WE GO AGAIN!

COME ON, K-9 --IT'S TIME WE WERE LEAVING!

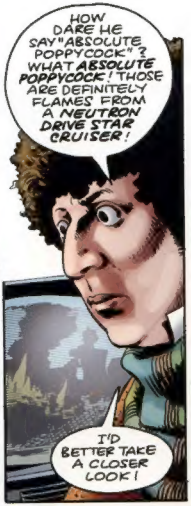
HE IS RETURNING TO HIS CRAFT, LEADER. THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT HE IS A SPY FOR THE MEEP?

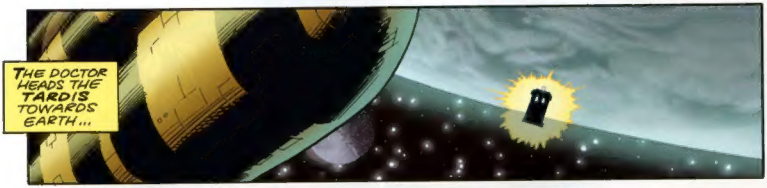
NONE. HOW ELSE DO YOU EXPLAIN HIS STRANGE ARRIVAL ON OUR SHIP? EVERYTHING IS GOING ACCORDING TO PLAN!

A PAT ON THE BACK, DOCTOR--ANOTHER FANTASTIC ESCAPE! AND YOU'RE FINE ... APART FROM A TUMMY ACHE!
K-9

I'LL GET YOU REPAIRED, K-9, THEN ... HELLO! WE'RE PICKING UP A T.V. SIGNAL FROM EARTH...

REPORTS THAT THE STRANGE FIRE AT BLACKCASTLE STEEL MILLS WAS CAUSED BY AN EXPLODING U.F.O. HAVE BEEN DESCRIBED AS ... "ABSOLUTE POPPYCOCK", BY A SPOKESMAN.


HOW DARE HE SAY "ABSOLUTE POPPYCOCK"? WHAT ABSOLUTE POPPYCOCK! THOSE ARE DEFINITELY FLAMES FROM A NEUTRON DRIVE STAR CRUISER!
I'D BETTER TAKE A CLOSER LOOK!


THE DOCTOR HEADS THE TARDIS TOWARDS EARTH...

...UNAWARE THAT HE HAS STOWAWAYS ON BOARD!
WE WILL FOLLOW THE SPY AS OUR LEADER HAS ORDERED. AND WHEN HE MAKES CONTACT WITH THE HATED MEEP...

...DETONATE THE BOMB IN HIS STOMACH ...BLOWING THEM BOTH INTO A BILLION PARTEKS!
NEXT WEEK: THE HUNT!

NEXT MONTH IN ISSUE 5 OF

DOCTOR WHO CLASSICS

IDWORDS
News from the nerve center of IDW Publishing

REIGN OF TERROR

Where the TRANSFORMERS movie left off, THE REIGN OF STARSCREAM *begins!*

When we last saw Starscream onscreen, he was one of only a few Decepticons to survive the epic battle at the climax of the blockbuster *Transformers* movie. After the credits rolled, he was taking off into space for parts unknown… until now! While a live-action sequel is already set for the summer of 2009, fans need not wait another year to get their first fix of *Transformers* movie mayhem—IDW Publishing will release the film's official comics sequel in April, with the no-holds-barred 'botfest *The Reign of Starscream.*

For this marquee miniseries, IDW has brought back the heavy hitters from its best-selling *Transformers* movie tie-ins of 2007—IDW Publisher and Editor-in-Chief **Chris Ryall**, who co-wrote the *Transformers Movie Prequel*—and fan-favorite sketchmaster **Alex Milne**, who handled the art on the *Transformers Movie Adaptation.* Joining Ryall this time will be IDW cohort **Chris Mowry**, who created the overall story for this comic book continuation of their war on our world.

To find out more about the upcoming movie sequel comic, we banged on Ryall's office door several times to echoes of "I'm on deadline! You wanna die?" So, instead, we sandbagged him on the way to his car, bound his wrists up with zip-ties and then force-fed him decaffienated coffee until he started to talk. In order to get Mowry to talk, we just hid some of his toys.

cover by Alex Milne

Angel: After the Fall #5
Badger Saves the World #4
Cory Doctorow's Futuristic Tales of the Here and New #6: After the Siege
Doctor Who #3
Doctor Who Classics #4
Dun Stars #2
Everybody's Dead #1
Fallen Angel #25
FX #1
Gene Simmons Zipper #5
Ghost Whisperer: The Haunted #1
Locke & Key #2
Rogue Angel: Teller of Tall Tales #2
Silent Hill: Sinner's Reward #2
Speed Racer: Chronicles of the Racer #3
Star Trek: The Next Generation: Intelligence Gathering #3
Star Trek: New Frontier: Turnaround#1
Wormwood: Calamari Rising #4

The Transformers: Best of the UK: Space Pirates #1
The Transformers Spotlight: Grimlock
The Transformers Spotlight: Mirage
The Transformers Focus On… Decepticons!

The Complete Badger Vol. 2 TPB
Complete Terry & The Pirates Vol. 3 HC
CSI: Serial–New Printing
CSI: Bad Rap–New Printing
Sparrow: Ashley Wood, Vol. 2
Speed Racer Vol. 3 TPB
Speed Racer, Vol. 4 TPB
Speed Racer/Racer X, Vol. 1 TPB
Star Trek: Year Four TPB
Wormwood Vol. 2 TPB
Zombies vs. Robots vs. Amazons HC

Worthwhile Books Titles
Michael Recycle

MARCH RELEASES FROM IDW PUBLISHING

Everybody's Dead #1

Star Trek: New Frontier: Turnaround #1

FX #1

Ghost Whisperer: The Haunted #1

Comments, questions, suggestions, complaints, gripes, etc. are appreciated. Feel free to send any correspondence to letters@idwpublishing.com or IDWords, 4411 Morena Blvd., Suite 106, San Diego, CA 92117. You can also join in the hullabaloo on our message boards at idwpublishing.com.

cover by Gabriel Rodriguez

IDWords: So, Starscream has always been a favorite among the fans, and with his escape at the end of the movie it seems only natural that you'd showcase him in the sequel. Can you give us a sneak peek behind what we're going to see?

Chris Ryall: Well, the one thing I wish we could've seen more of in the movie was more interplay between the Decepticons. We didn't get to see all that much of their personalities, so this sequel is definitely going to delve into what makes some of them—notably Starscream and a few so-far-unnamed others—tick. Starscream, as he always has in all his iterations, has some schemes of his own, and now that Megatron is out of the way, he sees this as the perfect chance to take charge and make them happen.

Chris Mowry: I think what is going to stand out the most is that this is a version of Starscream that we've not seen before, and certainly didn't see enough of in the movie. He's not the same running joke as he was back in the day. He's smart and lethal… VERY lethal.

IDWords: Ryall, you co-wrote the movie prequel, and now you're co-writing the movie sequel—sort of the IDW bookends for the film. How different was it writing the two?

CR: With both, the movie script was our starting place. Only, with the Prequel, we worked backwards, filling in gaps and explaining things that were referenced as having already happened. With the Sequel, it's much more of an unknown. The end of the movie is where we begin, too, but from there, we're charting out own path, free to expand the story into some exciting new directions.

IDWords: There's a live-action sequel in 2009. How do you navigate the storytelling of the comics sequel, knowing that there's a further movie sequel on the horizon?

CM: At this moment, we know that there will indeed be a sequel, and one of our characters will play a major role in it. Plot-wise, we're trying to continue the story right where the movie left off and have some fun with it. During this whole process however, we've got the live-action sequel in the back of our minds and it's going to be very tough to not contradict that. I think people will be pleased at what we have to offer, though. There'll be much more action than in the movie and prequel and we'll try to tie up a lot of those loose ends that were left from the movie. Just how did the Decepticons get to Earth before the Autobots anyway?

IDWords: Rumor has it that there'll be new Transformers *characters in the comics sequel who weren't in the film. Want to give us a roll call?*

CR: I'd love to. But I'd love even more for people to be surprised when they see them appear in the comic for the first time. I can tell you that there will be characters both known and unknown appearing here. Some familiar and some all-new.

IDWords: Will there be any "Easter eggs" or hidden references to the IDW Transformers *continuity for sharp-eyed fans to look for?*

CM: Why, of course! There'll be plenty of things to be on the lookout for.

CR: With longtime fans like **Alex Milne** on art and [co-writer] **Chris Mowry** involved? Oh, that's guaranteed. In fact, you can see a first one on this page, in the form of variant cover artist **Gabriel Rodriguez**'s tribute to a classic *Transformers* comic cover from times past.

IDWords: Ryall, readers of the IDW message boards know you're not just editor-in-chief, you're a big fan of Transformers *as well. What's with the whole "ChrisCharger" thing there?*

CR: That was my "guise" at the time we started, since my then-car, the Honda S2000, was already an Alternator, Windcharger. And **Nick Roche** was kind enough to bring that figure to life (that was his first professional IDW work, a fact that no doubt brings tears of one kind or another to his eyes). Now that that car is long gone, though, it might be time for me to scan a new form.

IDWords: Speaking of the "Chris" name, your collaborator this time is fellow IDW Autobot Chris Mowry. How did the whole "Chris & Chris" team come about, and how are you working together?

CR: Well, one of our first plotting sessions devolved quickly into heckling the John Cena movie *The Marine* instead of actually working, if that tells you anything about our co-writing process. But actually, Mowry had this entire story solidly planned out in detailed fashion, so it's an easy matter for us to now work together on the actual scripting.

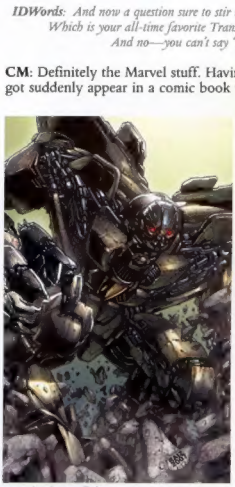
IDWords: Okay, there's the movie sequel. What else is in store for IDW's Transformers fans in 2008?

CR: Let's just say that while Megatron might not be getting much play here—due to the fact that he "died" at the end of the first movie—that won't be a problem in our other books. All Hail.

CM: Yeah, All Hail, indeed. But I think maybe since this is an election year, the fans will get to choose which Decepticon leader they like best.

IDWords: And now a question sure to stir up controversy among fans: Which is your all-time favorite Transformers continuity? And no—you can't say "IDW".

CM: Definitely the Marvel stuff. Having the new toy you just got suddenly appear in a comic book was just too cool.


cover by James Raiz

CR: So you mean which is my second-favorite continuity, then? I'm definitely biased towards the movie continuity now, since it's new and exciting and we're actually contributing to it. But in the spirit of fair play, I'll have to go with the original Marvel continuity—it was the foundation for everything that followed, and it's what I first read as a kid. And you know your first time always holds a special place in your heart…

IDW